

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-17 (Cancelled).

Claim 18 (Currently Amended): A magnetooptic read head, comprising:

a magnetooptic transducer with a multilayer structure with at least one thin magnetic layer with a magnetooptic effect;

at least one layer of a nonmagnetic material and having a predetermined wear coefficient greater than ~~that~~ a wear coefficient of the multilayer structure; and

a layer with ~~good~~ a predetermined magnetic permeability ~~for closing~~ configured to close a magnetic circuit, ~~and~~

wherein the layer with ~~good~~ the predetermined magnetic permeability comprises ~~alternating~~ a first plurality of sublayers made of a magnetic material with ~~good~~ the predetermined magnetic permeability and a second plurality of sublayers made of a material having a wear coefficient substantially equivalent to said wear coefficient of the at least one layer ~~made of a nonmagnetic material,~~ and

sublayers of said first plurality of sublayers alternate with sublayers of said second plurality of sublayers.

Claim 19 (Currently Amended): The read head as claimed in claim 18, wherein the first plurality of sublayers are made of a material similar to that of the at least one thin magnetic layer with a the magnetooptic effect.

Claim 20 (Currently Amended): The read head as claimed in claim 18, wherein the second plurality of sublayers are made of a material similar to that of the at least one layer made of a the nonmagnetic material.

Claim 21 (Currently Amended): The read head as claimed in claim 19, wherein the at least one thin magnetic layer with a the magnetooptic effect is made of a material based on iron, silicon and aluminum ( $\text{Fe}_x\text{Si}_y\text{Al}_z$ ) or based on iron, tantalum and nitrogen ( $\text{Fe}_x\text{Ta}_y\text{N}_z$ ).

Claim 22 (Currently Amended): The read head as claimed in claim 20, wherein the at least one layer made of a the nonmagnetic material is made of a material based on silicon and nitrogen ( $\text{Si}_x\text{N}_y$ ).

Claim 23 (Currently Amended): The read head as claimed in claim 18, wherein a total thickness of the first plurality of sublayers is less than a diameter of ~~the~~ particles ~~coming from~~ produced by a wear of the materials of the read head or of a medium to be read.

Claim 24 (Currently Amended): The read head as claimed in claim 23, wherein a the total thickness of the first plurality of sublayers is between 10 and 50 nm.

Claim 25 (Currently Amended): The read head as claimed in claim 24, wherein a total thickness of the second plurality of sublayers is ~~a few tens of nanometers~~ between 10 and 30 nm.

Claim 26 (Currently Amended): The read head as claimed in claim 25, comprising a ~~few tens~~ about 30 sublayers of said first plurality of sublayers that alternate with a ~~few tens~~ about 30 sublayers of said second plurality of sublayers.

Claim 27 (Currently Amended): The read head as claimed in claim 18, further comprising a reflecting layer located between the at least one layer of a nonmagnetic layer material and the layer ~~of good~~ with the predetermined magnetic permeability.

Claim 28 (Previously Presented): The read head as claimed in claim 27, wherein the reflecting layer is made of gold or of copper.

Claim 29 (Currently Amended): The read head as claimed in claim 18, further comprising a layer of an optical coupling material placed against the at least one thin magnetic layer with a the magneto optic effect.

Claim 30 (Previously Presented): The read head as claimed in claim 29, wherein the optical coupling layer is made of silicon.

Claim 31 (Currently Amended): The read head as claimed in claim 18, wherein the layer ~~of good~~ with the predetermined magnetic permeability is coated with a protective layer on its a face that faces away from the at least one layer of a the nonmagnetic material.

Claim 32 (Previously Presented): The read head as claimed in claim 31, wherein the protective layer is made of  $\text{Si}_x\text{N}_y$ .

Claim 33 (Currently Amended): The read head as claimed in claim 18, further comprising a backplate adhesively bonded to the layer of ~~good~~ with the predetermined magnetic permeability or to ~~the~~ a protective layer that coats a face of the layer with the predetermined magnetic permeability.

Claim 34 (Currently Amended): The read head as claimed in claim 33, wherein the at least one thin magnetic layer with a the magneto optic effect is supported by a substrate, ~~a sidewall of a stack of layers comprising:~~

~~a substrate;~~

~~a layer with a magnetic effect;~~

~~a layer with good magnetic permeability;~~

~~a backplate;~~

~~the stack of layers forming an active face of the magnetic head and a thicknesses~~  
thickness of the backplate and ~~of the substrate measured on said sidewall are~~ is substantially equal to a thickness of the substrate.

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IN THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Figures 4a and 4b. This sheet, which includes Figures 4a and 4b, replaces the original sheet including Figures 4a and 4b.

ATTACHMENT: REPLACEMENT SHEET